

§ 19. Consideration of costs and benefits and antitrust laws

(a) Costs and benefits

(1) In general

Before promulgating a regulation under this chapter or issuing an order (except as provided in paragraph (3)), the Commission shall consider the costs and benefits of the action of the Commission.

(2) Considerations

The costs and benefits of the proposed Commission action shall be evaluated in light of—

- (A) considerations of protection of market participants and the public;
- (B) considerations of the efficiency, competitiveness, and financial integrity of futures markets;
- (C) considerations of price discovery;
- (D) considerations of sound risk management practices; and
- (E) other public interest considerations.

(3) Applicability

This subsection does not apply to the following actions of the Commission:

- (A) An order that initiates, is part of, or is the result of an adjudicatory or investigative process of the Commission.
- (B) An emergency action.
- (C) A finding of fact regarding compliance with a requirement of the Commission.

(b) Antitrust laws

The Commission shall take into consideration the public interest to be protected by the antitrust laws and endeavor to take the least anti-competitive means of achieving the objectives of this chapter, as well as the policies and purposes of this chapter, in issuing any order or adopting any Commission rule or regulation (including any exemption under section 6(c) or 6c(b) of this title), or in requiring or approving any bylaw, rule, or regulation of a contract market or registered futures association established pursuant to section 21 of this title.

(Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, §15, as added Pub. L. 93-463, title I, §107, Oct. 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 1395; amended Pub. L. 102-546, title V, §502(b), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3631; Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §119], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-403.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106-554 inserted section catchline, added subsec. (a), designated existing provisions as subsec. (b), and inserted subsec. (b) heading.

1992—Pub. L. 102-546 substituted “regulation (including any exemption under section 6(c) or 6c(b) of this title)” for “regulation”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

For effective date of section, see section 418 of Pub. L. 93-463, set out as an Effective Date of 1974 Amendment note under section 2 of this title.

§ 20. Market reports

(a) Information

The Commission may conduct regular investigations of the markets for goods, articles, services, rights, and interests which are the subject of futures contracts, and furnish reports of

the findings of these investigations to the public on a regular basis. These market reports shall, where appropriate, include information on the supply, demand, prices, and other conditions in the United States and other countries with respect to such goods, articles, services, rights, interests, and information respecting the futures markets.

(b) Avoidance of duplication

The Commission shall cooperate with the Department of Agriculture and any other Department or Federal agency which makes market investigations to avoid unnecessary duplication of information-gathering activities.

(c) Furnishing of information; confidentiality

The Department of Agriculture and any other Department or Federal agency which has market information sought by the Commission shall furnish it to the Commission upon the request of any authorized employee of the Commission. The Commission shall abide by any rules of confidentiality applying to such information.

(d) Disclosure of business transactions, market positions, trade secrets, or names of customers

The Commission shall not disclose in such reports data and information which would separately disclose the business transactions or market positions of any person and trade secrets or names of customers except as provided in section 12 of this title.

(e) Application

This section shall not apply to investigations involving any security underlying a security futures product.

(Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, §16, as added Pub. L. 93-463, title IV, §414, Oct. 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 1414; amended Pub. L. 97-444, title II, §232, Jan. 11, 1983, 96 Stat. 2320; Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title II, §251(e)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-443.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 106-554 added subsec. (e).

1983—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 97-444 prohibited disclosure of market positions.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1983 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 97-444 effective Jan. 11, 1983, see section 239 of Pub. L. 97-444, set out as a note under section 2 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

For effective date of section, see section 418 of Pub. L. 93-463, set out as an Effective Date of 1974 Amendment note under section 2 of this title.

STUDY OF TRADING IN CATTLE FUTURES CONTRACTS

Pub. L. 99-641, title I, §111, Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3561, provided that:

“(a) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct and complete a comprehensive study of the effect of trading in contracts for the future delivery of live cattle on the cash market price of live cattle, with particular emphasis on—

“(1) whether the reaction of the live cattle futures market to the results of the milk production termination program in March 1986, conducted under section 201(d)(3) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1446(d)(3)), was based on and accurately reflected the then prevailing conditions of supply and demand;